

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting

April 29, 2004
Richfield, Utah

Attendance: Mike Beacco Becky Cox Lynnette Robinson
 Regan Wilson Rich VanAnsdal
 Richard Nelson (Proxy for Brad Neufeld and Wayne Shamo)

Excused: Mike Murdock Tami Fullerton Sue Kimball
 Brian Olmstead Evelyn Black Brad Neufeld
 Cheryl Cox Wayne Shamo

Absent: Tracy Johnson Rosy Rosander Jim Eardley

Guests: Chad Johnson Libbie Zenger

Staff: Ann Barnson Fran Cannard

Minutes: Jolene Bundy

Welcome – Ann Barnson

Ann welcomed everyone to the meeting. She excused Greg Muller. He is home with a sick Child.

Ann welcomed Mike Beacco to our meeting. He is a new member. He is the Independent Living Coordinator from DCFS (Division of Child and Family Services) in St. George. He has been working with Ann on a state Task Force for Transition of Youth to Adult. He is also a new member of the Region Council.

Youth Support Services Update/ Citizenship-Leadership Project – Richard Nelson

The State is providing money for a Citizenship/ Leadership Project to be completed before July 1. The participants must be WIA Youth. For this reason WinField Kids has been asked to oversee the project.

- Winfield Kids has put together a “Leadership Event” which will be held at Antimony, Garfield County, Utah at the RockinR Ranch. This is a working cattle ranch with approximately 500 head of cattle and 100 head of horses. The Ranch provides workshops and leadership projects to groups of at risk youth throughout the year. The event will be held over 2 days and will include service projects, leadership development activities and workshops, overnight accommodations, meals, ranching activities, and horseback activities if they desire. The Youth will plan and arrange for the Transportation to and from the event, plan the activities, and be actively engaged in all stages of the event. Parents, Guardians, DWS Personnel, Region Council Members and other youth are invited to attend as they will need Adult chaperons. It will be held in late May or early June. Media coverage will be documented for future distribution. It will be an enjoyable lifelong learning experience for all those who attend.

- Richard passed out the Western Region WIA Youth Services News Letter for April 2004. It explained some of the directions they are going and what is happening.
- Richard said he attended the National Youth Development Practitioners Institute from March 21-26, 2004. It was held in Dallas Texas. This is the first time that WIA youth service providers were invited to attend. There he met Lorenzo Harrison, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Youth Services. There he learned there is an estimated 5.4 million at-risk youth in the United States. Approximately 2.4 million of these at-risk youth are identified as coming from low-income families. The U.S. Federal Budget allocation (including all at-risk youth funding programs) is funded to cover only 200,000 youth. This leaves a huge gap of youth that need service. The latest information on the WIA reauthorization was presented. It looks like it most likely will be a 50-50 ratio of in school youth to out of school youth instead of the 30-70 they have discussed. The best guess for completion of the reauthorization for WIA is the summer of 2005.
- The contract with WinField Kids as the Youth Services Provider expires the first of July 2004. Because the reauthorization for WIA has not been done, we will extend the contract with WinField Kids until September of 2005. Then a new RFP will need to be done.
- Richard said Lorenzo Harrison has asked for our help by writing letters to Mason Bishop, and "Toot our Own Horn" so to speak on the good that is being done through WIA. He said there is \$222 Billion of money available for all youth services. He only gets 1 Billion for WIA Services. He is hoping that letters showing the good that is coming from WIA might get us a bigger cut of that \$222 Billion for WIA Youth Services.
- WinField Kids has developed a UCARE List. It is a form they developed to get referrals of out of school youth. Of the agencies they have talked to, some want to help. Others don't. If they can see good results they will be willing to help. At the bottom of the form: Code 1 is a High School Graduate but one that needs extra support. Code 2 means they are a high school completer but did not graduate. Because they didn't graduate, they are kept in the system through 12th grade. They are not considered a drop out because the school still maintains their records until that class graduates, even though they are not attending school. The youth on remedial programs can stay in the system until they are 21 years of age. The goal of this UCARE list is to identify the youth who need help. Not just for the WIA Program, but for all services. They want to get people aware of the programs that exist so the schools will work with them and provide the names of the youth who are not attending school that have not graduated. Internships is an example of a program they can work with the youth on. They have been having a lot of meetings to identify these youth.
- Richard said when he attended the meeting in Dallas, he found out other states don't have the connections we have in Utah.
- Becky said they are trying to generate a list of the Youth who are referred to Millcreek but never show up. Ann said we can serve those ages 14-21 if they are not attending school. An example is 8 young men all living in an apartment together. They are working but they need help meeting their needs. They have girls in this situation but the girls aren't working so they really need extra help. Becky asked Richard to come to their meeting and meet the youth.
- Richard said if they get a referral, they sometimes go to the house and meet them personally.
- Regan offered Job Corp services suggesting some of the youth could benefit from Job Corp. They have a really good program in the Uinta Basin and she would feel good about recommending that program to them. In Job Corp the room and board is paid for as well as paying them to learn a trade.

- Ann said right now there is a freeze on the number of youth who are in school that we can help because once the youth are enrolled in the program, they stay on the program until they are 21 years of age and become an Adult.
- Mike had a question about one of the girls he has been working with. She has obtained full time employment at Walmart but she still needs extra help in other ways. Can she still get further help if she has a job? Ann said yes. We can still help with further schooling to get her some transferable skills into other areas.

NAWB – Libbie Zenger

Libbie asked if she could take a few minutes. She attended the National Association of Workforce Boards Conference in Washington DC and came back with a couple of ideas she wanted to present to the Youth Council. She had a book one of the other states has printed called the *Teen Yellow Pages*. It is a small pocket size book that has Youth Resources listed. If they need help of any kind, they can go to the Teen Yellow Pages and find where to go. The second one is the *Pocket Resume* and is a guide for the youth to carry in their pocket when they go for interviews. It is a guide on how to fill out a resume, how to do an interview, how to dress and look for the interview, etc. Libbie thought they were great ideas and passed them around for everyone to see them.

Taskforce Report – Richard Nelson

Richard said the task force has been working on tutoring resources. Cheryl Cox took the lead on that. She passed out a questionnaire to all of the schools in Washington County and found out, in most of the schools in Washington County, it doesn't exist. Dixie High is about the only school with a program. Dixie Middle School will refer their students to Dixie High. The other schools don't admit they don't have one. They just say it is on a personal need basis. The Truth is it really doesn't exist. Dixie High School pays for their tutoring program through the Trust Lands Fund. It was suggested the other schools could use this fund also to pay for the program in their school. Richard said they will put a link for tutoring help on their WinField Kids Web page. Richard said they wanted to put it on Utah Cares Web page but it isn't that easy. Fran suggested putting links for tutoring on the DWS web page and suggested having the school district list it on their web page.

Youth Conference – Becky Cox

Becky said a youth conference was going to be held in the 5 county area. It is a 5 County Project and any youth are invited. They will have workshops, service projects, great entertainment and great workshop speakers. They did a mini-project during spring break. It was great and the youth really enjoyed it. This one will be bigger and better.

Operating Principles – Ann Barnson

Ann passed out copies of the operating principles of the Youth Council. It hasn't been updated since the council passed it back in about 2000. She felt there were some changes that could be made.

- The Mission Statement for our Youth Council needs to be inserted there in place of the generic one that came from the WIA regulations.

- The Membership chart needs to be updated. She said the list there lists the Agency and then the person representing that agency. That needs to be updated since we usually just list the members.
- Term – Ann would like to change the length of the terms of service. She felt it should change to on going and filled as needed.
- Vacancies – Ann suggested a change be made in the way vacancies are filled by taking out “in writing” and just say “submitting” the name.
- Rich VanAusdal made a motion to make the changes mentioned. Regan seconded the motion. The changes were approved unanimously.

Priority Rating System – Ann Barnson

Ann passed out the Priority Rating Form used to determine who is eligible and enrolled in WIA. Because of the changes in trying to enroll more out of school youth, she is proposing changing the points under the Age Factor, ages 14-18 be changed from 0 to 1 point, ages 19-21 from 2 points to 3 points. Under Barriers, change the school Drop-Out points from 2 to 3, Out-of-School Youth from 2 to 3 points, and foster Child from 2 to 3 points. This will give the priority to the foster Youth and Out of School Youth. Becky made a motion to adopt the changes. Lynnette seconded the motion. The changes were approved unanimously.

Transitioning to Youth to Adult – Ann Barnson

Ann said she and Mike Beacco are on a state committee working to transition foster Kids into adulthood. They are looking at education, training, and Employment areas. They are trying to coordinate services to see that the foster kids get the services that are needed. There is another taskforce working on a web site for the schools. There are 5 sub groups and 8 focus groups looking at other issues that relate to these youth. They will keep the council updated on what progress is made.

Election – Ann Barnson

Ann said Greg Muller’s term of office will be up the first of July. By law, the chair can only serve for 2 years. Lynnette Robinson has been serving as Vice Chair and would be move up to the Chair position but she has a new position which will not allow her to fill that position. She wants to stay on the Youth Council but has asked to be released from the position of Chair or Vice Chair. We therefore need to elect both a Chair and a Vice Chair. It was decided to call a special meeting by conference call on May 13, 2004 at 2:00 P.M. in order to get as many as possible to vote. Jolene will set up the conference call and let everyone know.

Meeting was adjourned. Our next Youth Council meeting will be July 22, 2004 in Beaver.